COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (LA County CRC)

CRC MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MINUTES: Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 6:30 pm

VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED AT: CLICK HERE

Agenda

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Thai V. Le, Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC) Clerk, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

The <u>LA County CRC's Resolution No. 2021-09</u> enables the Commission to meet virtually in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Commission may continue to teleconference its meeting without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953 because of COVID- 19 pandemic and health issues.

Thai V. Le took roll call. A quorum was present.

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Late; arrived 6:42 pm	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner Mary Kenney	Late; arrived 6:40 pm	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

AGENDA ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA - CO-CHAIR CAROLYN WILLIAMS

The agenda was accepted with no changes.

AGENDA ITEM 4: UPDATE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) NEWLY RELEASED REDISTRICTING GUIDANCE – CO-CHAIR CAROLYN WILLIAMS

Presenter: Bruce Adelson, Esq., Federal Compliance Consulting LLC; Instructor of Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine; Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Bruce Adelson provided an update on the DOJ's issued guidance about Voting Rights Act (VRA), Section 2, and its impact on redistricting. The Commissioners asked questions for clarification.

Public comment – see recordings on "VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED" at the start of the minutes:

- 1. Jacqueline Ayer
- 2. Chris Rowe

AGENDA ITEM 5: CONSENT ITEMS - CO-CHAIR DAN MAYEDA

Items listed under the consent calendar are considered by the Co-Chairs to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion unless a commissioner requests otherwise, in which case the item will be removed for separate consideration.

The Commissioners approved the following minutes with a typo fix to the September 14, 2021, minutes, and notification that Commissioner Mark Mendoza arrived 20 minutes late on September 29, 2021:

- a. September 14, 2021, Draft Minutes
- b. September 22, 2021, Draft Minutes
- c. September 29, 2021, Draft Minutes

Motion Made:	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Outcome:	Approved

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner Mary Kenney	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING - PRESENTATION

<u>6a. Discussion of potential Communities of Interest (COIs), based on public input to date and consider</u> <u>direction to ARCBridge to prepare COI Maps based on Commission Direction Provided — Co- Dan Mayeda</u>

The Commissioners worked on 1 of 5 teams that reviewed community of interest (COI) input. Each team were assigned geographic zones to review. Each zone was reviewed by 2 different teams as a check-and-balance:



Team	Commissioners	Zones
1	Commissioners John Vento and Mark Mendoza	A, B, D, I
2	Commissioners Priscilla Orpinela-Segura, Saira Soto, Apolonio Morales	E, F, G
3	Commissioners David Holtzman and Nelson Obregon, Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	B, C, D, H
4	Commissioners Jean Franklin and Hailes Soto; Co-Chair Carolyn Williams	E, F, I
5	Commissioners Brian Stecher, Mary Kenney, Doreena Wong	A, C, G, H

Commissioner Team Leaders provided overviews of their team's process to develop their COI hypotheses:

- Team 1—Commissioner Vento
- Team 2—Commissioner Morales
- Team 3—Co-Chair Mayeda
- Team 4—Co-Chair Williams
- Team 5—Commissioner Stecher

(Note: Links to recorded team discussions are available in the Executive Director's Report.)

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., provided an overview of her Executive Director Report, summarizing COI hypotheses developed the Commissioner teams. The <u>full report</u> is available on the LA County CRC website. She also pointed out:

- The LA County CRC has completed 12 public hearings with at least 1 physically (hybrid) in each of the current 5 supervisorial districts.
- Preliminary and COI maps submitted to date are posted on CRC website.
- COI hypotheses are a starting point for the next mapping phase of the LA County CRC; they can be:
 - Drawn by ARCBridge on a map
 - Used to identify areas of overlap, agreement, or conflicting viewpoints
 - o Refined based on further public input
 - Used as possible building blocks for redistricting maps

Public comment – see recordings on "VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED" at the start of the minutes:

1. Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation



- 2. Illece Buckley Weber
- 3. Roger Pugliese, Topanga Association for a Scenic Community
- 4. Henry Perez, Innercity Struggle
- 5. Chris Rowe

The Commissioners then reviewed the team's COI hypotheses to identify areas of agreement, disagreement, and overlap. ARCBridge provided some preliminary COI maps for geographic areas Nos. 1 through 3. The following geographic areas were discussed in the Executive Director's report:

- 1. Greater East Los Angeles (ELA) Communities
- 2. South Central LA, South LA, and Southeast LA Communities
- 3. Harbor & Gateway Cities PLUS Long Beach
- 4. Baldwin Hills, Hollywood, Westside North, Hancock Park, Los Feliz, Silver Lake
- 5. North Country: AV and SCV
- 6. Sea Coastal Communities
- 7. Santa Monica Mountains: Topanga, Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Las Virgenes, Santa Monica
- 8. San Fernando Valley (SFV)
- 9. Tri-Cities: Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena
- 10. San Gabriel Valley (SGV)
- 11. Montebello and Monterey Park because of lack of time at this meeting, to be discussed later by the Commissioners
- 12. Whittier because of lack of time at this meeting, to be discussed later by the Commissioners

The public were encouraged to submit written comments about specific geographic COI areas at https://publiccomment.redistricting.lacounty.gov/ by geographic area.

<u>6b. Update on the Press Conference Logistics for October 7, 2021, at noon at the Hall of Administrations from the Ad Hoc Working Group on Outreach – Co-Chair Carolyn Williams and Commissioner Apolonio Morales</u>

Commissioner Morales and Executive Director Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough provided information regarding the logistics for the Press Conference.





REDISTRICTING 2021



6b. Update on the Press Conference Logistics from the Ad Hoc Working Group on Outreach – Co-Chair Carolyn Williams and Commissioner Apolonio Morales When: Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 11 a.m. Where: Front Steps of the Hall of Administration

500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Or

Join virtually: click here Passcode: 927450

One tap mobile: +16699009128,,89653349787#,,,,*927450#



6c. Continuation of Consideration of Establishing an Ad Hoc Working Group or Subcommittee to Review Maps Submitted, Organize Them for Commission Consideration, and/or Develop Working Drafts of Maps for Full Commission Debate — Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda

In preparation for reviewing submitted maps, Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough provided an overview of three options, posted and outlined in the written Executive Director Report on this topic.





Options	Number of Commissioners	Focus of Ad Hoc WG in October 2021
Establish a new Ad Hoc WG on Mapping to work with ARCBridge to review/group maps and draw mapping options for the full Commission to consideration	 Permit participation of up to 7 Commissioners Commissioners interested should let the Co-Chairs know Members to be selected by the Co-Chairs 	October: Ad Hoc WG works with ARCBridge to define themes and prepare groups of maps, along the lines of the themes, for consideration before the full Commission and to solicit public input. Last week in October: Ad Hoc WG develops or proposes redistricting mapping options for the full Commission's consideration. ARCBridge draws the options.
2. Establish a new Ad Hoc WG on Mapping to work with ARCBridge to review/group maps for the full Commission to study and draw mapping options	■ Same as above	October: Ad Hoc WG works with ARCBridge to define themes and prepare groups of maps, along the lines of the themes, for consideration before the full Commission and to solicit public input. Last week in October: Full Commission develops redistricting mapping options for ARCBridge to draw.



Options	Number of Commissioners	Focus of Ad Hoc WG in October 2021
3. Use the full Commission to perform this work at regularly posted meetings	 All 14 Commissioners 	October: Have ARCBridge bundle the maps according to themes for the full Commission to consider and solicit public input.
		Last week in October: Full Commission develops redistricting mapping options for ARCBridge to draw

In all three options:

- November: Full Commission conducts public hearings to solicit public input on the redistricting mapping options; it requests ARCBridge to refine the options, based on public input.
- **By December 15, 2021**: Full Commission adopts final map.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough also provided an overview of the tight timeline ahead:



The Commissioners asked questions of clarification.

Public comment: none

The Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of each option. A motion was made to adopt Option 2. The motion passed.

Motion Made:	ade: Commissioner Doreena Wong	
Motion Seconded:	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams and Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	
Outcome:	Approved	

Abstain	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
No	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner Mary Kenney	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
No	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

AGENDA ITEM 7: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GAYLA KRAETSCH HARTSOUGH, PH.D.

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough reminded the Commissioners of the following two events with the mapping software and datasets:

<u>Tomorrow</u>, <u>Thursday</u>, <u>October 7</u>, <u>2021</u>, <u>at 2:00 pm</u> Updated free mapping software with official data sets: To be launched

<u>Friday, October 8, 2021, 9:30-10:30 am</u>: Mapping software training in Spanish – details on the LA County CRC website

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough also learned 24-hours before the meeting that the Esri map templates and descriptions for the mapping software can be modified. She showed the current suggested descriptors:



Plan Name	Description
New Supervisorial Districts Map (Option 1)	Use this template to start with a CLEAN SLATE for drawing the 5 Supervisorial Districts, using the boundaries for cities, unincorporated areas, and communities within the City of Los Angeles
Revise Current Supervisorial Districts Template (Option 2)	Use this template if you want to start with the 5 Supervisorial Districts and make minor adjustments to their existing boundaries
Community of Interest (COI) Template (Option 3)	Use if you want to SUBMIT ONLY ONE SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT to reflect your local and surrounding communities
Etc.	Will be adding the LA County CRC map options in late October so that the public can review and submit proposed refinements to them

The Commissioners discussed if the "Clean Slate" should be labeled Option 1 or as Default. Commissioner Holtzman thought the public should only have the "Clean Slate" as an option, at startup of the mapping software, but have access to the existing district boundaries the same way as they have access to other political boundaries. He said the existing districts were drawn by supervisors and are often considered to "belong" to supervisors, so it is difficult to have a commission that is independent of the existing supervisors if the commission gives any special treatment to the existing district boundaries.

Other commissioners were concerned that members of the public had voiced an interest in merely modifying the current supervisorial districts (listed as the option 2 template in the table).

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Mayeda adjourned the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

To sign up for receiving future LA County CRC notices, go to: redistricting.lacounty.gov

To submit input to the public hearings, including signing up for speaking before the Commission, go to: https://forms.gle/2SDZSxEuKNZ3ZU1KA

